

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (canceled)

2. (previously presented) A contents server which generates guide contents for a tour from site information, information from a plurality of information sources and contents information, said contents server comprising:

information acquisition means for acquiring information specifying a combination of the information from the plurality of information sources and the contents information;

site information focusing means for narrowing down the site information using the acquired information;

guide contents generating means for generating the guide contents using the narrowed down site information;

guide contents output means for outputting the generated guide contents on a plurality of image layers superimposed on each other, each image layer corresponding to an information source among the plurality of information sources;

preview customizing means for previewing and customizing the guide contents on the basis of user information entered by a user, wherein the user information includes information created by the user and entered at least one of before or during the tour, and wherein the user created information includes time of entry information and is integrated into the guide contents, whereby the user can preview and customize said tour; and

album creation means for generating an album page incorporating record information including the user created information affixed to a map corresponding to an area the user moved to during said tour, based on user action history information representative of a route followed by the user during the tour, in response to a request after the tour,

wherein the user action history information includes user position information identifying user positions from which the route is defined and time information identifying times at which the user was located at the respective positions defining the route,

wherein the album creation means is for controlling display of, on a same screen display, the map and, independent from and without being affixed to the map, user created information entered by the user during the tour while the user was located within the area to which the map corresponds and selectable from the screen display to affix to the map, and

wherein, in response to selection from the screen display of the user created information entered by the user during the tour while the user was located within the area to which the map corresponds, the selected user created information is automatically displayed on the screen display affixed to a position on the map based on the user position and the corresponding time information from the user action history and the time of entry of the selected user created information.

3. (original) The contents server according to claim 2, wherein:

the site information includes site positional information, and

said guide contents generating means generates the guide contents using map data, the map data including positional information on a map for each site, said guide contents generating means laying out and displaying the site information on the map by matching the site positional information to the positional information on the map.

4.-7. (canceled)

8. (previously presented) An information processing method for generating guide contents for a tour from site information, information from a plurality of information sources and contents information, said information processing method comprising:

acquiring information specifying a combination of the information from the plurality of information sources and the contents information;

narrowing down the site information using the acquired information;

generating guide contents using the narrowed down site information;

outputting the generated guide contents on a plurality of image layers superimposed on each other, each image layer corresponding to an information source among the plurality of information sources;

previewing and customizing the guide contents on the basis of user information entered by a user, wherein the user information includes information created by the user and entered at least one of before or during the tour, and wherein the user created information includes time of entry information and is integrated into the guide contents, whereby the user can preview and customize said tour;

recording user action history information representative of a route followed by the user during the tour, wherein the user action history information includes user position information identifying user positions from which the route is defined and time information identifying times at which the user was located at the respective positions defining the route; and

generating an album page incorporating record information including the user created information affixed to a map from said tour in response to a request after the tour,

wherein the map corresponds to an area the user moved to during the tour, and wherein the generating of the album page further comprises:

displaying, on a same screen display, the map and, independently from and without being affixed to the map, user created information entered by the user during the tour while the user was located within the area to which the map corresponds and selectable from the screen display to affix to the map; and

in response to selection from the screen display of the user created information entered by the user during the tour while the user was located within the area to which the map corresponds, automatically displaying on the screen display the selected user created information affixed to a position on the map based on the user position and the corresponding time information from the user action history and the time of entry of the selected user created information.

9. (original) The information processing method according to claim 8, wherein:

the site information includes site positional information, and

the guide contents generating step generates the guide contents using map data, the map data including positional information on a map for each site, the guide contents generating step including laying out and displaying the site information on the map by matching the site positional information to the positional information on the map.

10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) An information processing method for using contents information, information from a

plurality of information sources, and site information including positional information specifying a position of a site to generate guide contents for a tour, said information processing method comprising:

acquiring information specifying a combination of the information from the plurality of information sources and the contents information;

narrowing down the site information using the acquired information;

matching the positional information included with the site information to positional information on a map for each site to produce a map/site match for each site, thereby generating the guide contents;

displaying the site information and the acquired information on the map using the narrowed down site information and the map/site match for each site, the site information being displayed on a first image layer and the acquired information being displayed on a second image layer superimposed with the first image layer;

previewing and customizing the guide contents on the basis of user information entered by a user, wherein the user information includes information created by the user and entered at least one of before or during the tour, and wherein the user created information includes time of entry information and is integrated into the guide contents, whereby the user can preview and customize said tour;

recording user action history information representative of a route followed by the user during the tour, wherein the user action history information includes user position information identifying user positions from which the route is defined and time information identifying the times at which the user was located at the respective positions defining the route; and

generating an album page incorporating record information including the user created information affixed to a map from said tour in response to a request after the tour, wherein the map corresponds to an area the user moved to during the tour, wherein the generating of the album page further comprises:

displaying, on a same screen display, the map and, independently from and without being affixed to the map, user created information entered by the user during the tour while the user was located within the area to which the map corresponds and selectable from the screen display to affix to the map, and

in response to selection from the screen display of the user created information entered by the user during the tour while the user was located within the area to which the map corresponds, automatically displaying on the screen display the selected user created information affixed to a position on the map based on the user position and the corresponding time information from the user action history and the time of entry of the selected user created information.

12. (original) The information processing method according to claim 11, wherein the displaying step displays the site information on the map using an icon corresponding to the site information.

13. (original) The information processing method according to claim 12, wherein the displaying step displays the site information corresponding to the icon.

14.-25. (canceled)

26. (previously presented) The contents server according to claim 2, wherein the generated guide contents are outputted based on an update date of the guide contents.

27. (previously presented) The information processing method according to claim 8, wherein the generated guide contents are outputted based on an update date of the guide contents.

28. (previously presented) The information processing method according to claim 11, wherein the site information is outputted based on an update date of the guide contents.

29. (previously presented) A contents server which generates guide contents for a tour from site information, information from a plurality of information sources and contents information, said contents server comprising:

information acquisition unit to acquire information specifying a combination of the information from the plurality of information sources and the contents information;

site information focusing unit to narrow down the site information using the acquired information;

guide contents generating unit to generate the guide contents using the narrowed down site information;

guide contents output unit to output the generated guide contents on a plurality of image layers superimposed on each other, each image layer corresponding to an information source among the plurality of information sources;

preview customizing unit to preview and customize the guide contents on the basis of user information entered by a user, wherein the user information includes information created by the user and entered at least one of before or during the tour, and wherein the user created information includes time of

entry information and is integrated into the guide contents, whereby the user can preview and customize said tour; and

album creation unit to generate an album page incorporating record information including the user created information affixed to a map corresponding to an area the user moved to during said tour, based on user action history information representative of a route followed by the user during the tour, in response to a request after the tour,

wherein the user action history information includes user position information identifying user positions from which the route is defined and time information identifying times at which the user was located at the respective positions defining the route,

wherein the album creation unit is to control display of, on a same screen display, the map and, independent from and without being affixed to the map, user created information entered by the user during the tour while the user was located within the area to which the map corresponds and selectable from the screen display to affix to the map, and

wherein, in response to selection from the screen display of the user created information entered by the user during the tour while the user was located within the area to which the map corresponds, the selected user created information is automatically displayed on the screen display affixed to a position on the map based on the user position and the corresponding time information from the user action history and the time of entry of the selected user created information.